



Erin Whoriskey
Lead Environmental Scientist
NE Environmental Permitting

March 9, 2022

Mr. Michael Wierbonics
US Army Corps of Engineers, New England District
Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division
696 Virginia Road
Concord, Massachusetts 01742-2751

Mr. Jeff Willis, Executive Director
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council
Stedman Government Center, Suite 116
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

Mr. Ronald Gagnon, P.E., Chief
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

Re: Pre-Construction Notification
USACE Permit No. **NAE-2012-2724 and NAE-2009-789**
RICRMC File No. **2012-09-065 (the Assent) and Orders 1 & 2**
RIDEM Water Quality Certificates File No. **12-039 and 12-037**, Dredge Permit No. **DP-12-120**
Sea2shore: The Renewable Link

Dear Messrs. Wierbonics, Willis, and Gagnon:

The Narragansett Electric Company (TNEC) is submitting this notification to the the United States Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE), the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) to inform all parties of planned activities on the Sea2shore: The Renewable Link Rebuild Project (Project) located in the Town of New Shoreham, Block Island, Rhode Island. TNEC herein is providing your agencies with notification that TNEC's contractor will be mobilizing to Crescent Beach and its nearshore waters on or about March 19, 2022.

TNEC completed the second Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) operations late January of 2021. The High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) conduit was installed March of 2021. During the final mandrel and proofing of the conduit in the spring 2021, TNEC encountered blockages in the conduit. Work on the island was then suspended to avoid construction activities on Block Island during the height of the tourist season. In the fall 2021, TNEC's contractor returned to the island and successfully cleared and pressure tested the conduit through high-pressure clearing, mandrel integrity passes and video inspection. TNEC's contractor then successfully pulled the armored cable through the conduit and spliced the onshore end of

the cable within the onshore manhole on November 9, 2021. The seaward end of the conduit was temporarily buried, and the remainder of the cable was laid on the seafloor. Due to unfavorable sea-state conditions encountered in Q4 2021, TNEC suspended all work activities in November 2021 and demobilized from Block Island.

TNEC and its contractor will be remobilizing to Block Island in March of 2022 to perform the following construction activities:

- Unbury the seaward end of the new cable section;
- Uncover the existing, energized submarine cable;
- Make an at-sea cable splice between the new cable section and existing cable;
- Remove the existing section of buried cable from approximate Station 17+00 in the nearshore waters landward to the beach;
- Excavate the beach to retrieve the cable installed back in 2016;
- Make a reasonable attempt to remove the “2016” conduit and cable section. If this removal is not successful, the beach end of cable will be cut, capped and buried to a minimum depth of 10-feet below the surface of the beach; and
- Restore and stabilize the work zones and demobilize from the island,

TNEC is collaborating with the Town of New Shoreham regarding the existing onshore easements to continue with the work on Block Island. TNEC anticipates that all work activities will require work through May 2022. TNEC is prepared to ensure that the southern parking lot at Crescent Beach is available for beach goers during the Memorial Day weekend and that all work on the beach is completed by May 25, 2022, prior to the Memorial Day weekend.

LS Cable (LS) will be the contractor working on behalf of TNEC to splice the cable and complete all activities related to the Crescent Beach Cable Replacement Project. LS intends to utilize the same means and methods outlined in the Environmental Report, submitted to all respective agencies on May 19, 2020. TNEC intends to operate under the existing approvals and authorizations, recent permit modifications and Orders issued by the USACE Permit No. NAE-2012-2724 and NAE-2009-789 issued August 28, 2020, RICRMC File No. 2012-09-065 (the Assent) and Orders 1 & 2 issued August 3, 2020, and RIDEM Water Quality Certificates File No. 12-039 and 12-037, Dredge Permit No. DP-12-120 issued August 5, 2020. TNEC is committed to adhering to RIDEM’s (WQC #12-039 DP-12-120) Condition 9B, therefore the project has been planned to avoid dredging/jet plowing through March 31st. No seafloor disturbances are proposed to occur prior to April 1, 2022.

TNEC will continue to inform your agency of any modifications or new developments for the cable shore landing. Thank you again for your continued cooperation in authorizing the cable landfall rebuilds to proceed on schedule.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 907-3598, erin.whoriskey@nationalgrid.com, or Jamie Durand at (401) 439-3020, jamie.durand@powereng.com, if you have any questions.

Best Regards,



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National Grid

cc:

Donna Wieting (NOAA Fisheries)
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Brian Moore (RIDEM)
Neal Personeus (RIDEM)
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Charles Horbert (RIDEM)
Kate McConville (The Town of New Shoreham Harbormaster)
Dan Goulet (RICRMC)
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Town of New Shoreham
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